

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1, and 6-11 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as their invention.

Claims 6-11 have been added to more fully claim the subject matter that applicants regard as their invention. Support for amended claim 1 is found, for example, on page 5, line 35 to page 6, line 31, in view of page 5, lines 9-10 and 16-17 of the specification as filed. Further support for amended claim 1 can be found on page 10, lines 12-17 and page 10, line 30 to page 11, line 32. Support for new claims 6 and 7 can be found, for example, on page 11, lines 5-9. Support for new claim 8 can be found, for example, on page 11, lines 15-17 and 29-32, and on page 6, lines 27-30. Support for new claims 9-11, which relate to using one authentication key for each device is found, for example, on page 8 of the specification as filed. No new matter is believed to be added by the present amendment.

Regarding the objection to the specification, applicants submit herewith a replacement abstract.

Rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by D'Amico (US Pat No 5077790)

Applicants submit that amended claim 1, and the claims that depend therefrom are not anticipated under 35 USC 102(b) by D'Amico since D'Amico fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of amended claim 1.

Amended claim 1 recites:

- (c) generating an authentication key which becomes the **authentication key of the new network**; and*
- (d) the device becoming the central controller of the new network, in case the device is to be installed on an existing network;*
- (e) asking the user to enter a PIN code;*
- (f) checking by said central controller whether the entered PIN code corresponds to a PIN code of the network and if such checking is positive, sending an **authentication key of the network** from said central controller to said device;*
- and*

(g) storing said authentication key by said device for use in authentication procedures between said device and said central controller. (emphasis added)

Applicants submit that nowhere does D'Amico disclose or suggest the above-emphasized limitations of claim 1.

D'Amico discloses a system for registering a wireless device in a communications system that comprises a base station and a network controller. The wireless device communicates with the network controller through the base stations. To enable the communications, the network controller sends registration information to the wireless device, wherein the registration information comprises subscriber information and a link identification number (col. 2, lines 3-6). The link identification number is a four digit number used for public base station (telepoint) access (col. 3, lines 12-13).

However, D'Amico fails to disclose transmitting an authentication key of the network that is used in authentication procedures between the device and the central controller. D'Amico does not provide any details regarding the authentication process. The portions of D'Amico cited in the Office Action mention that registration information, including encrypted subscriber information may be sent to the portable unit, but fail to disclose an authentication key of the network as recited in claim 1.

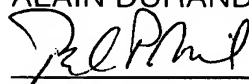
By contrast, present claim 1 recites, inter alia, generating an authentication key, which becomes the authentication key of the network, sending the authentication key of the network to the device, and storing the authentication key by the device for use in authentication procedures between the device and the central controller. In view of the above, applicants submit that D'Amico fails to teach all of the limitations of amended claim 1, and as such, amended claim 1, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not anticipated by D'Amico.

New claim 9 also generating an authentication key and sending the authentication key to the device, and as such, applicants submit that new claim 9, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not anticipated by D'Amico for at least the same reasons as those discussed above.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,
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Linda Tindall